

26 October 1978

NOTE FOR:

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SUBJECT: Draft Letter to Senator Wallop - 10/25/78

1. My own view is that it is premature to direct Senatorial attention to the Review Panel.

2. If the draft's references stand, perhaps "full-time" or some similar form should precede "outside experts" to distinguish the Review Panel from the 11-3/8 panel mentioned in the same paragraph.

3. There is much other material in this draft that I think Mr. Bowie would like to see.

William Leonhart

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25 October 1978

Dear Senator Wallop,

We are indeed agreed that the expression of divergent views on significant issues be encouraged within the Intelligence Community and that ways be found for these views--and their supporting argumentation--to be expressed in our publications. Crucial to this is the creation of an atmosphere in which individuals know that dissenting opinions will receive a hearing and be judged on their merits.

I have recently taken two organizational steps--and given those steps wide publicity--with the aim of letting Agency employees from top to bottom know where I stand on this issue. One move was the creation of an NIO for Warning with responsibility to take a "second-look" at our analysis and reporting of developments of major concern to the US Government. He will be my ombudsman on this subject, and I have encouraged anyone who believes a serious threat is being overlooked to bring his or her concerns directly to him. Second, I have designated my Special Assistant as the person through whom matters of significant substantive

dissent can be brought to the attention of Frank Carlucci and myself. I am enclosing a copy of "Notes From the Director" which describes these steps in greater detail. This publication goes to every Agency employee.

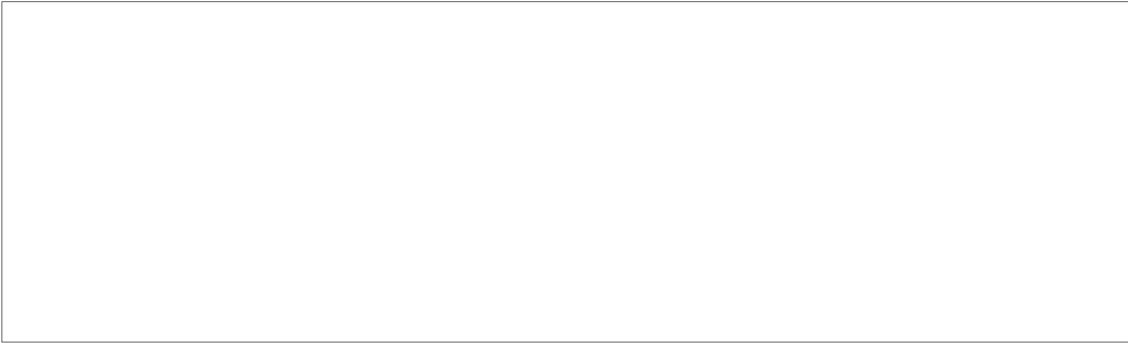
I am also pleased to report that we are having some excellent success putting together a Senior Review Panel of outside experts who will examine National Estimates and other major pieces of Community production. I want them to ask hard questions of our line analysts and to challenge the conventional findings and methodology. I intend to stay in close and direct touch with them to ensure their views are not lost or ignored. Incidentally, the panel that we have been working with throughout the process of putting together this year's NIE 11-3/8 has been most helpful and the panel members themselves came away impressed with the quality of the people and work here.

Just as I want substantive dissent to be brought to my attention, it is important that where divergent views exist in the Community they be brought to the attention of the consumers of our intelligence product. We have, of course, done this over the years in National Estimates and other Interagency publications. It is difficult to show statistically whether there is more or less expression of divergent views from year to year. New evidence removes

some issues from the divergent view category, and most estimates are not published on as regular or frequent a basis as 11-3/8. Nevertheless, it is instructive to look at the range of issues on which divergent views were expressed by one or more components of the Intelligence Community in the most recent estimate


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On each of these subjects, those holding divergent views presented their case in the text of the estimate with the rationale for their position. Holders of the divergent views were also identified.

I have also encouraged the presentation of divergent views in our daily publications. We continue to publish items in the National Intelligence Daily written by INR, DIA and NSA. By-line articles in the NID offer the opportunity for individual analysts to express views on a subject without rigorous Interagency coordination. Where there are disagreements on important substantive points, these are expressed and I am including a few recent examples. Where such disagreements arise in the NID production process, I have instructed that they also be reflected in the President's Daily Brief.



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I hope that we can multiply examples of this type and that all within the Community will more fully recognize that a first-rate intelligence product demands that no lights be hidden under bushels.

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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 400, 87TH CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

NFAC #

October 12, 1978

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO Q.#6007

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Langley, Virginia

Dear Admiral Turner:

Over the past year we have spoken of the desirability that diverse points of view be fostered in the Intelligence Community and be expressed in its products.

Would it be possible for you to send me some kind of evidence on how diversity has fared in recent months? Would a comparison of the instances in which parallel text was published in National Estimates in 1976 and in 1978 be a reasonable index?

Sincerely,

Malcolm Wallop
Malcolm Wallop